

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

IN THE MATTER OF:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (AF [REDACTED])

DOCKET NO: 97-01745

COUNSEL: NONE

OCT 22 1997

HEARING DESIRED: NO

Applicant requests that his undesirable discharge be upgraded to an honorable discharge. Applicant's submission is at Exhibit A.

The facts surrounding his separation from the Air Force are contained in his military records which are attached at Exhibit B.

On 2 July 1975, the Air Force Discharge Review Board (AFDRB) denied the applicant's request for upgrade of his discharge.

After careful consideration of applicant's request and the available evidence of record, we find insufficient evidence of error or injustice to warrant corrective action. Absent persuasive evidence applicant was denied rights to which entitled, appropriate regulations were not followed, or appropriate standards were not applied, we find no basis to disturb the existing record.

Accordingly, applicant's request is denied.

The Board staff is directed to inform applicant of this decision. Applicant should also be informed that this decision is final and will only be reconsidered upon the presentation of new relevant evidence which was not reasonably available at the time the application was filed.

Members of the Board Mr. Wayne R. Gracie, Mr. Michael P. Higgins, and Mr. Kenneth L. Reinertson, considered this application on 30 September 1997 in accordance with the provisions of Air Force Instruction 36-2603, and the governing statute, 10, U.S.C. 1552.

Wayne R. Gracie

WAYNE R. GRACIE
Panel Chairman

Exhibits:

- A. Applicant's DD Form 149
- B. Available Master Personnel Records

Information Bulletin

UPGRADE OF DISCHARGE - CLEMENCY

Your request to have your discharge upgraded may be based on propriety or equity. Additionally, even though your discharge may have been entirely appropriate under the circumstances, you may apply to the Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR) for upgrade of your discharge from the Air Force on the basis of clemency. To evaluate your request for a clemency upgrade, the members of the Board will want to know about the quality of your military service prior to the misconduct that caused the discharge, the nature of that misconduct, and what you have done with your life since your discharge.

Often the quality of service and the nature of the misconduct are apparent to the Board from a review of your service records. If the records are missing or incomplete, however, you should tell the Board about your military service, especially your positive contributions to the military mission. You should also explain the misconduct that led to your discharge and provide any extenuating or mitigating factors. Finally, you should provide the Board with information on your activities since leaving the service.

Post-service information might include educational accomplishments, employment history, information about your family, contributions to your community, and character references from people who know you well and can vouch for your honesty and integrity. Any information that will tend to show that you have been a productive member of your community since your discharge will be helpful.

Many applicants don't send character references because they don't want to reveal the nature of their discharge to friends or acquaintances. This is unfortunate. It is not normally necessary for you to reveal the purpose of the character reference. You may request it for "personal reasons" and have it addressed "To Whom It May Concern," The author need only discuss your character and citizenship in general terms - it is not necessary for them to know about or comment on the discharge itself. The person providing the character reference should not send it directly to the AFBCMR, but should give it to you so you can attach it to your request.

The decision of the Board on your request will depend on many factors, but the primary factors are the quality of your military service before the misconduct that led to your discharge, the nature of that misconduct, and your good citizenship since your discharge. The upgrade of a discharge on the basis of clemency does not mean that the discharge was improper or unwarranted. It means simply that the Secretary of the Air Force, acting through the AFBCMR, has decided that you have suffered the effects of the discharge long enough and a degree of clemency is warranted.

This information is compiled to assist you. We do not wish to imply that following this advice will necessarily result in approval of your request. The Board will decide your case based on its evaluation of the evidence.

Should you have any questions, please call us at AC 301 981-3502.

The AFBCMR Staff